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New Jersey Office of the Attorney General

Division of Consumer Affairs
State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners
Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee
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ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE **PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES** **NOVEMBER 21, 2014**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Alcohol and Drug Counselor Committee was called to Order by Committee Chair, Edward Reading at 9:41 a.m. in the Hudson Conference Room, 6th floor, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Committee Chair, Edward Reading
Committee Vice-Chair, Sylvia Lippe
Committee Member, Norwood Allen

Also Present:

Nancy Miller, Deputy Attorney General
Milagros Collazo, Executive Director
Michela Ross, Government Rep
Celeste Paige, Administrative Staff

Excused:

Committee Member, Jamie Lugo

In accordance with Chapter 231 of P.L. 1975, more commonly referred to as the Sunshine Law, adequate notice of this meeting was provided by mail to the Office of the Secretary of the State of New Jersey, The Newark Star Ledger, The Trenton Times, The Record and the Courier Post and also posted on the Committee's web page.

Announcement of Quorum

Committee Chair Edward Reading announced that a quorum was present at 9:42 a.m.

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

A. October 24, 2014 Public Minutes

Upon motion by Norwood Allen, seconded by Edward Reading, the Committee members present voted to approve the October 24, 2014 public minutes as amended. Voting in favor: all members present. The motion passed.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following members of the public were present:

- A. Richard Bowe, Executive Director, Addiction Professionals Certification Board, Inc. *(see comments in Section XI below)*
- B. Liz Conti, Workforce Development & Training Coordinator, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services *(see comments in Section XII below)*

V. LEGISLATIVE REGULATORY

- A. **Senate Bill 324** ~ This bill seeks to establish a Behavioral Health Insurance Claims Advocacy Program. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill with the comment that the program it establishes should be adequately funded. Voting in favor: all members present. The motion passed.*
- B. **Senate Bill 2047** ~ This bill seeks to clarify Division of Human Services (DHS) authority to license and regulate sober living homes. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support the bill if amended to include standards for sober living homes as outlined by the National Association of Recovery Residences. Voting in favor: all members present. The motion passed.*
- C. **Senate Bill 2180** ~ This bill seeks to require certain health benefits plans to provide treatment for behavioral health care services when determined medically necessary. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill if the definition of "behavioral health" is amended to include substance abuse and addictions, mental health, and co-occurring disorders. The Committee also commented that the following mental health professionals should be added to this bill: Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Professional Counselors, and Alcohol and Drug Counselors. Voting in favor: all members present. The motion passed.*
- D. **Senate Bill 2366** ~ This bill seeks to require health care practitioners to inform patients of addiction potential of controlled dangerous substances prior to using prescription. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill as written. Voting in favor: all members present. The motion passed.*
- E. **Senate Bill 2373** ~ This bill seeks to require the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services to annually prepare and make available to the public, a substance abuse treatment provider performance report. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill and commented that it supports making information available to the public, but that the information gathered should be evaluated for relevance. Voting in favor: all members present. The motion passed.*

- F. Senate Bill 2375** ~ This bill seeks to provide for licensure of ambulatory care facilities to provide integrated primary care services including behavioral health care. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill if it is amended to include Alcohol and Drug Counselors. Voting in favor: all members present. The motion passed.*
- G. Senate Bill 2377** ~ This bill seeks to direct certain four-year public institutions of higher education to establish substance abuse recovery housing program. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill with the amendment that the percentage of students living in on-campus housing be decreased to no more than 15%. Voting in favor: all members. Motion passed.*
- H. Senate Bill 2378** ~ This bill seeks to extend the “Overdose Prevention Act” immunity provisions to certain professionals and professional entities, and permits needle exchange programs to obtain standing order for opioid antidote dispensation. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill if it included a provision to refer the patient to treatment in a timely matter. Voting in favor: all members present. Motion passed.*
- I. Senate Bill 2380** ~ This bill seeks to require Department of Human Services (DHS) and Department of Corrections (DOC) to share regulatory authority in regard to prison-based mental health and substance abuse treatment programs. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee members voted to support this bill with amendments including: defining the term “narcotics” to include other scheduled substances such as cocaine, amphetamines, and marijuana, and to include all member health licensees who can treat addictions within their scope of practice. Voting in favor: all members present. Motion passed.*
- J. Senate Bill 3804** ~ This bill seeks to require State agencies to periodically review administrative rules and regulations to ensure continued efficacy. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill but also commented that this is a current practice of the Committee. The Committee also asked for clarification of section five of this bill. Voting in favor: all members present. Motion passed.*
- K. Assembly Bill 3561** ~ This bill requires professional boards to provide for online processing of application for licensure or renewal. *Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee voted to support this bill, but commented that there should be a provision for those who do not have access to a computer. Voting in favor: all members present. Motion passed.*

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

No report provided.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

No report provided.

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VIII. NEW BUSINESS

No report provided.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

None to report.

X. FILED ORDERS

No report provided.

XI. Addiction Professionals Certification Board of New Jersey Matters (APCBNJ)

Richard Bowe, Executive Director of The Addiction Professionals Certification Board of New Jersey, was present to update the Committee on the computer based testing procedures for written examinations. He noted that it has been a successful transition from paper testing.

XII. Division of Mental Health and Addiction Service Matters (DMHAS)

The Committee members present noted that Ms. Conti, Workforce Development & Training Coordinator, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services was present to discuss the training opportunities offered by the Division for counselor interns.

XIII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for **December 19, 2014** 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, Newark, New Jersey.

Meeting Dates for 2014

December 19, 2014

Meeting Dates for 2015

January 23, 2015	July 24, 2015
February 27, 2015	August - cancel meeting
March 27, 2015	September 25, 2015
April 24, 2015	October 23, 2015
May 22, 2015	November 20, 2015
June 26, 2015	December 18, 2015

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion by Norwood Allen, seconded by Sylvia Lippe, the Committee members present voted to enter Executive Session at 1:05 p.m. to review applications, plans of supervision, consumer complaints, and other pending disciplinary and confidential matters. When and if action is taken, it will be announced in public session. Voting in favor: all members present. Motion passed.

X. APPLICATION REVIEW

The following applications for licensure/certification and examination were reviewed and approve as noted:

Oral and Written Examinations

Susan B. Byrne

Tina M. Curry

Lawrence A. Formica

Monica A. Frank

Laura H. Hoge

Lisa M. Munn

Roswell Perez

Jill Panico

Barbara L. Quinn

Mary R. Rafeca

Leslie G. Rojas

Patricia Taveras

Casey Terzis

Leonor Sainz

LCADC

Gretchen A. Fry

Jamie L. Killmeyer

Jeanne Marshall

Lisa M. McConnell

Jennifer Mendes-Coaty

Christina A. Ovellette

Cynthia L. Rae

Mary I. Reimer

Kathleen Sloan

Melissa L. Sloan

Jessica Smires

Grace Strain

Nicole M. Tursi

Charmaine B. Wright

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CADC

Inas S. Bilal-Davis

Stephanie Davis

Linda M. DiPrimio

Shannon Gunngor

Donna Ann Parker

Colleen Slimm

Kaitlyn J. Zedalis

LCADC Upgrade

None

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Upon motion by Sylvia Lippe, seconded by Norwood Allen, the Committee members present voted to adjourn the November 24, 2014 public session at 5:32 p.m. Voting in favor: all members present. Motion passed.

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